

Planetviews Productions

November 9, 2018



Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

445 12th Street, SW

Washington , DC 20554

Re: Docket number 05-311

The proposed new rules which would allow cable companies to apply “in-kind” contributions as alternatives to their existing franchise fee financial payments can and will greatly diminish access to communities by Public, Education and Government (PEG) agencies, organizations and individuals.

This would affect basic responsibilities such as PEG channel capacity, programming transmission, connectivity to schools and public buildings, and other important community functions.

Planetviews Productions is a community-based group which works in cooperation with public agencies and recognized educational bodies. This includes producing video materials featuring events, seminars, and workshops which are co-sponsored by the Department of Commerce and its National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), University of Hawaii and its Office of Sustainability, the Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) and numerous community organizations.

PEG television stations provide the venue in which the public and interested agency staff can easily view and effectively share such information. Community television programs created by our Planetviews Productions group, and cablecast via PEG cable television providers Olelo, Akaku and others, include video materials featuring the good work of community and political leaders in Hawaii and abroad. Our PEG productions include programs which feature :

- 1) The good work of Senator Mazie Hirono and her support for protection of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and similar conservation initiatives.
- 2) The good work of Senator Brian Schatz for his leadership in areas of sustainable energy and climate change.
- 3) The good work of Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard and her leadership on issues such as declining coral reefs and ocean wildlife habitat.

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4) The good work of Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa and her support for culturally appropriate sustainable tourism on the Waianae coast of Oahu island.

In addition to television shows which contain information on these respected leaders, other PEG television programs which our Planetviews productions team has created and are fortunate to present to the public, agencies and key decision makers include:

a) World Conservation Congress: This 10-day forum attracted over 10,000 visitors to the State of Hawaii and generated in excess of \$60 million dollars to our island economy. Planetviews created a series of community television programs regarding this international forum whose participants filled the Hawaii Convention Center. One such series of programs is our Digital Media Campus, which features young peoples leadership, international initiatives to protect endangered species and the expansion of wildlife friendly and culturally appropriate tourism.

b) University of Hawaii Sustainability in Higher Education Summits. These multi-day conferences not only attract educators and students from throughout the Hawaiian Islands and Pacific region, but also bring together similar faculty and students from California, Arizona, Nevada, Oregon and other states. Information, educational tools, scientific models and visual examples of successful commercial enterprises are presented and shared. The PEG television programs we create serve as the ONLY method for viewing and gaining this information outside of such conference . The television shows are essential for those who cannot travel to Honolulu or who have work duties, family responsibilities or similar commitments which prevent them from attending these conferences in-person.

c) Microorganisms At Work: Existing and ongoing microbial research is implemented in food production, sustainable agriculture and organic waste management. This series of PEG television programs features ways in which municipalities, government agencies, educational institutions, commercial enterprises and the general public can use and benefit from science-based information pertaining to microbial mixes which are readily available and inexpensive to use. The applications and uses range from commercial farming, backyard gardening, animal waste remediation and restoration of polluted water.

If the FCC adopts Docket number 05-311 proposed rules, PEG franchising authorities will be gravely impacted. Within Hawaii, the Franchise agreements are engaged within the authority of the State of Hawaii's Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA).

Key agencies within this Franchise system are community television and media centers which serve as information hubs for the public throughout Hawaii.

Under the proposed FCC rules these community television and media centers could be forced to greatly reduce, or possibly stop their operations (!)

Community television and media centers include:

- Oahu island Olelo Community Media
- Maui island Akaku Community Media
- Hawai'i island Na Leo 'O Hawai'i Television
- Kaua'i island Ho'Ike Community Television

We and others within the PEG television and media community ask the Federal Communications Commission to help **support community media and strengthen our voices, not diminish them !**

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Bailey".

Michael Bailey

cc:

U.S. Senator Mazie Hirono

U.S. Senator Brian Schatz

U.S. Representative Tulsi Gabbard

U.S. Representative Colleen Hanabusa

Sanford Inouye, President & CEO, Olelo Community Television

Jay April, President & CEO, Akaku Community Television